

CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical formulation for the controlled release of a therapeutic peptide or a salt thereof, which peptide has the sequence

pyroGlu-His-Trp-Ser-Xaa¹-Gly-Xaa²-Xaa³-Pro-Gly-NH₂

wherein Xaa¹ is His or Tyr,
Xaa² is Trp or Leu, and
Xaa³ is Tyr or Arg,

provided that when Xaa¹ is Tyr and Xaa² is Leu, then Xaa³ is not Arg,

and which formulation further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable biodegradable polymer.

2. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein the peptide is

pyroGlu-His-Trp-Ser-His-Gly-Trp-Tyr-Pro-Gly-NH₂

3. The formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer is a polymer of a hydroxy derivative of a carboxylic acid, or a copolymer of such derivatives.

4. The formulation according to Claim 3, wherein the polymer is a polymer of glycolic acid, a polymer of lactic acid, or a copolymer of lactic and glycolic acids.

5. The formulation according to Claim 1 wherein the peptide is microencapsulated by the polymer.

6. A method for the treatment of a human medical condition, which method comprises the administration to an individual in need of such treatment of a therapeutically effective amount of a controlled release formulation of a peptide according to any of the preceding Claims.

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- Sub B6
7. A formulation according to any of claims 1 to 5 for treatment of or for protection against disorder of bone growth or disorder of prostate growth.
8. The use of a peptide or salt as defined in claim 1 or 2, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable biodegradable polymer, for the preparation of a controlled release medicament for the treatment of or protection against disorder of bone growth or disorder of prostate growth.
9. A use according to claim 8 wherein said polymer is
- [a] a polymer of a hydroxy derivative of a carboxylic acid, or a co-polymer of such derivatives, or
- [b] a polymer of glycolic acid, a polymer of lactic acid, or a co-polymer of lactic and glycolic acids.
10. A use according to claim 8 or 9 wherein said disorder is selected from age-related osteoporosis, osteoporosis associated with post-menopausal hormone status, primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism, disuse osteoporosis, diabetes-related osteoporosis, glucocorticoid-related osteoporosis, benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer.
11. A formulation according to claim 7 for the treatment of or protection against disorder selected from age-related osteoporosis, osteoporosis associated with post-menopausal hormone status, primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism, disuse osteoporosis, diabetes-related osteoporosis, glucocorticoid-related osteoporosis, benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer.
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